

**Amendments to the Title:**

Please replace the title with the following rewritten title:

ROUTE CONTROL SYSTEM AND ROUTE CONTROL METHOD IN ~~ATM~~ A  
SWITCHING APPARATUS

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 11-17 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph.

In recent years, a variety of services supported by an ATM switching apparatus are required ~~[[in]]~~ due to the rapid spreading of ~~[[a]]~~ the market ~~[[of]]~~ for the ATM switching apparatus. Therefore, various types of hardware ~~[[is]]~~ are installed into the ATM switching apparatus to provide the variety of services and a service function of each type of hardware is extended.

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, line 24 to page 2, line 1 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph.

However, because a managing method is different for every system in such a conventional route monitor control system, ~~there is a problem to need~~ professional knowledge for maintenance ~~operation~~ operations for every system is needed.

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 16-22 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph.

The present invention is accomplished in view of above problem. ~~An object of the present invention is to~~ Embodiments of the invention provide a route monitor control system in which ~~[[in]]~~ a monitoring apparatus for performing a maintenance operation~~[[.]]~~ does not ~~need~~ require professional knowledge special to the monitoring apparatus, a route monitor control method and a recording medium.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 18-27 with the following rewritten paragraph.

In the route monitor control system of the described present invention, an OAM cell handler (OCH) 4 is specified as a starting point for sending out an OAM cell. However, the control unit 5 operates in such a manner that a plurality of OAM cell ~~handler~~ handlers (OCHs) 4 may operate as the starting points sending out OAM cells at a time or sequentially. That is, by setting a plurality of starting points for monitoring the routes of the ATM switching apparatus, the load to monitor the ATM switching apparatus can be distributed.